

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 01962 111342Z

51

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 PA-04 PRS-01

INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 NEAE-00 DRC-01 /146 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO USIA WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5707

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USIAC

USIA FOR IOP/M, INA, IPS, IBS

STATE FOR NEA/MIKLOS

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: IRANIAN MEDIA REACTION: CONTINUING THE OIL EMBARGO

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. LEAD EDIT "STRAINING ARJM UNITY" MARCH 11 IN MORNING DAILY, TEHRAN JOURNAL, SEES RECRUDESCENCE GC SHARP DIFFERENCES IN ARAB COMMUNITY OVER WISDOM OF LIFTING OIL EMBARGO AGAINST US. EDIT FORECASTS THESE DIFFERENCES WILL SURFACE BOLDY AT MEETING OF ARAB OIL MINISTERS SET FOR MARCH 13 IN LIBYA.

2. EDIT MAKES WHAT IS BY NOW LOCAL MEDIA'S PRO FORMA ATTACK ON ATTITUDES EXPRESSED BY SAUDI ARABIA'S YAMANI. IT OBSERVES:

"REGARDLESS OF THE MERIT OF THE OIL EMBARGO, THERE SEEMS TO BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 01962 111342Z

SOME LOGIC IN THE ARGUMENT OF THOSE ARABS WHO OPPOSE ITS LIFTING."

3. EDIT ASSERTS THAT US HAS YET TO SO ACT ON MATTER OF MIDDLE EAST AS TO JUSTIFY ENDING THE EMBARGO: "THE POINT THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN IMPORTING MORE OIL THAN BEFORE THE EMBARGO DOES NOT REALLY ENTER THE ARGUMENT. IT IS THE PRINCIPLE OF THE THING THAT HAS RAISED THE IRE OF SO MANY ARAB OIL PRODUCERS. THEY DO NOT THINK, AND JUSTIFIABLY SO, THAT THE ACTIONS OF THE UNTIED STATES MERIT THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO. ONCE AGAIN, REGARDLESS OF THE MERITS OF THE EMBARGO, IT LOOKS WRONG TO TAKE A STEP AND THEN ABANDON IT HALFWAY."

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4. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT ATTITUDES EXPRESSED IN THIS EDIT ARE CONTRARY TO IRANIAN POSITION AS STATED EARLIER BY SHAH THAT, SINCE BOYCOTT IS INEFFECTIVE, IT SHOULD BE DROPPED.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, PRESS CONFERENCES, EMBARGOES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TEHRAN01962
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740352/aaaabwsh.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 AUG 2002 by kellew0>; APPROVED <05-Sep-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IRANIAN MEDIA REACTION: CONTINUING THE OIL EMBARGO BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED
TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, IR
To: USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005